

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 218004

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INS - MR. BROBSON (DRAFT)

VO - MR. ARIAS (DRAFT)

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R 122305Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218004

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: UNHCR APPEAL FOR KURDISH REFUGEES IN IRAN

REF: (A) GENEVA 6774 (NOTAL); (B) TEHRAN 8585; (C) STATE
174054

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 218004

1. MISSION SHOULD REPLY TO UNHCR LETTER ALONG LINES SET

OUT BELOW.

2. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S APPEAL FOR RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIMITED NUMBERS OF KURDISH REFUGEES NOW IN IRAN. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO TAKE ITS SHARE OF THE REFUGEES WHO WILL BE RESETTLED AND OPES THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WILL SIMILARLY AGREE TO COOPERATE IN THIS RESETTLEMENT EFFORT.

3. AS REFUGEES FROM THE GENERAL AREA OF THE MIDDLE EAST ARE ALREADY ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES IF THEY APPLY BEFORE AN OFFICER OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE ABROAD, THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PROPOSE TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM FOR KURDISH REFUGEES, BUT RATHER WILL USE THE EXISTING CONDITIONAL ENTRY MACHINERY FOR THIS PURPOSE. THERE ARE HEAVY DEMANDS

ON THE 10,200 CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS AVAILABLE ANNUALLY. INS ANTICIPATES USING 3,600 DOMESTICALLY IN FY 1976 AND HAS HEAVY DEMANDS FOR USE OF NUMBERS IN ROME, BEIRUT AND HONG KONG. THEREFORE, IN ORDER PREVENT LONG WAITING PERIODS KURDISH REFUGEES SHOULD BE FED GRADUALLY INTO PROCESSING PIPELINE.

4. IMMIGRATION SERVICE OFFICERS WHO CAN PROCESS REFUGEES ARE LOCATED IN AUSTRIA, GREECE, ITALY, AND GERMANY.

5. ACCORDINGLY THE USG WOULD EXPECT THE UNHCR TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF ONE OR MORE OF THESE COUNTRIES TO PERMIT THE ENTRY OF KURDISH REFUGEES FOR PROCESSING FOR ADMISSION INTO THE UNITED STATES. SUCH COUNTRIES MUST ALSO AGREE TO READMIT REFUGEES WITHIN TWO YEARS OF THEIR DEPARTURE IF THEY ARE FOUND INADMISSABLE TO THE U.S. WITHIN THAT PERIOD. (FYI - THIS IS INS REQUIREMENT FOR ALL CONDITIONAL ENTRY APPLICANTS.)

6. KURDISH REFUGEES WILL ALSO BE EXPECTED TO HAVE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WHICH WILL MEET THE DEFINITION OF A PASSPORT FOR U.S.G. ENTRY PURPOSES.

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PAGE 03 STATE 218004

7. THE MISSION HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER POSSIBLE U.S. ADMISSION OF KURDISH REFUGEES AND WISHES TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNHCR TO EXPLAIN FURTHER THE PROCESSING MECHANISM.

8. IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH UNHCR MISSION SHOULD EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF UTILIZING ONE OF EXISTING REFUGEE

CAMPS SUCH AS LAVRION OR TREISKIRSCHEN FOR KURDISH PROGRAM. FYI KURDS ARE NOT AMONG GROUPS INCLUDED IN PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION ON CATEGORIES OF REFUGEES ELIGIBLE FOR USRP ASSISTANCE. OTHER REFUGEE ASSISTANCE FUNDS ARE FULLY OBLIGATED FOR REMAINDER OF CY 1975.

9. DEPT. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INFORMATION UNHCR OR EMBASSY TEHRAN MIGHT HAVE ON APPARENT WILLINGNESS IRANIAN GOVT. CONSIDER ISSUING TWO-WAY TRAVEL DOCUMENT AS NOTED PARA 2 REF (B). KISSINGER

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